



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 22.45 Thursday, November 10, 2016 Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren **F R E E**

Generous voters pass VBT Public Safety, school, library proposals

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

Voters in Belleville, Van Buren Township, and Sumpter Township opened their pocketbooks at Tuesday's General Election, approving all local proposals presented to them – and they all involve increased property taxes.

In Van Buren Township, the seven-year, 6.5-mill Public Safety proposal was approved 8,847 to 4,873.

Both proposals by the Belleville Area District Library were approved: Proposal one, bonding to build a \$14 million library passed 10,459 to 9,219. Proposal two, to pay 0.75 mill for 20 years to run it, passed 10,066 to 9,668.

The Van Buren Public Schools non-homestead 18-mill, eight-year proposal for operation passed 10,952 to 10,463.

Results for the Wayne RESA proposal were not available for this report. Two years ago, Wayne RESA put the millage on the ballot, but voters rejected it by 2 percentage points. Under the proposal, property owners countywide would pay a 2-mill, six-year tax to support the county's school districts.

Final totals for the Regional Transit Authority proposal for Southeastern Michigan were not available as the *Independent* went to press Wednesday morning. The 20-year, 1.2-mill property tax for mass transit lost in Macomb and Oakland counties, and was slightly behind in Wayne and Washtenaw counties. It needs a simple total majority to win.

Turnout high

Turnout was high Tuesday with Van Buren Township reporting 67% of its 22,774 registered voters casting ballots. In Sumpter Township, 60.93% of its 7,240 registered voters cast ballots and in Belleville it was 59% of its 3,273 registered voters. Canton turnout was 69.63%.

Board of Education

Elected to four-year terms on the Van

Buren Public Schools Board of Education were: incumbent Kelly Owen, 7,370; Susan Featheringill, 7,058; Simone Pinter, 6,809; and Keith Johnston, 6,424.

Others running were Darlene Loyer Gerick, 6,124; Victor De Libera, 4,370; Brent Mikulski, 3,751; and David Peer, 3,716.

Van Buren Township Trustees

The only race in VBT was for trustee. Winners of four-year terms were: Sherry Frazier, 9,909; incumbent Reggie Miller, 9,692; Kevin Martin, 9,552; and Paul White, 8,962.

Others running for trustee were John Chapman, who earned 2,714 votes; and Linda Combs, who ran with a write-in campaign and got 572 votes.

Unopposed were Kevin McNamara for supervisor, 11,096; Treasurer Sharry Budd, 10,948; and Clerk Leon Wright, 10,784.

Sumpter Township Trustees

In Sumpter Township, the lone Republican gave Democrat incumbents a race, but lost. Winners of four-year terms were: Don LaPorte, 2,315; Don Swinson, 2,186; Matthew Oddy, 2,160; and Peggy Morgan, 2,123. Republican Tim Rush, who previously sat on the board, earned 2,086 votes.

District Library Board

Unopposed for seats on the Belleville Area District Library Board were newcomer Alma Hughes-Grubbs, who got 8,106 votes; and incumbents Joy Cichewicz, 7,903, and John Juriga, 7,079.

Late night in VBT

Election returns in Van Buren Township were not available until about 2:48 a.m. Wednesday. Belleville was first in the tri-community with returns sent out at 10:33 p.m. Tuesday and Sumpter Township returns were ready a couple of hours later at 12:40 a.m.



*Postal Regulations Require
 This Space On The Front Page.*



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Oztman

After performing at a veteran's funeral recently, the Belleville Veterans of Foreign Wars Honor Guard posed with the statue of The Veteran by Mike Sohikian on the Fourth Street Square. This was to help promote the awareness of art pieces on display throughout the city of Belleville. The veterans, not in order, are Bob Stevenson, George Papandreou, Ross Medos, Rick Dawson, Jerry Asher, Stan Scott, and Russ Canell. Belleville Downtown Development Authority Coordinator Carol Thompson had the idea for the photo and has other plans to promote the other sculptures and Detroit Institute of Arts paintings on display in the downtown.

City of Belleville issues Proclamation on Veteran's History & Appreciation Month

A Proclamation designating the month of November as Veteran's History & Appreciation Month in the City of Belleville, Michigan, in recognition of the accomplishments, contributions and sacrifices of Veterans in the service of this country.

Whereas, although brave men and women have throughout our nation's history served with honor in the Armed Forces of our country and participated in wars and conflicts in which our country have been engaged, their contributions, sacrifices and heroism are in danger of being forgotten by the general public or of being taken for granted; and

Whereas, the City Council of Belleville wish to express our respect and gratitude for the millions of men and women who have served our nation as members of the Armed Forces; and

Whereas, we should remember the selflessness and valor of those brave men and women who answered our country's call to duty and participated in the wars and conflicts of our nation or served during times of peace, and

remember those who were captured by the enemy or who are missing in action and whose fate is still unknown; and

Whereas, Americans and millions of people around the world enjoy the blessings of freedom, peace, and representative government because our Veterans were willing to risk their lives for them, and the people of the City of Belleville owe a great debt of gratitude to all our military Veterans who have stood, in times of peace and war, for the value of individual liberty and a free and democratic government.

Now, therefore be it resolved that the Council for the City of Belleville express our recognition of and appreciation for the contributions, heroism and sacrifices of these dedicated valiant men and women for their devotion to duty, flag and country by declaring the month of November, 2016 as "Veteran's History & Appreciation" month in the City of Belleville, Michigan.

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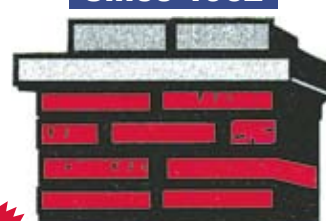
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SECOND FRONT PAGE

VBT board to vote on expanding WM landfill into golf course

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

Waste Management will get approval to expand its landfill into the Woodland Meadows golf course on Ecorse Road, if the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees approves the deal.

The current board is scheduled to vote on this fifth amendment to the landfill agreement during its last meeting on Nov. 15 before the board members elected Nov. 8 are sworn in on Nov. 18.

At a 2½-hour special work / study meeting on Nov 3, John C. Myers, Director of Operations for Waste Management's Michigan Market Area, gave a PowerPoint presentation on what the fifth amendment agreement contains.

Treasurer Sharry Budd was absent from the meeting. Supervisor Linda Combs, Clerk Leon Wright, and Trustee Philip Hart negotiated the agreement for the township and they were present to explain to the rest of the board members who had little information in advance of this meeting.

Myers said the present landfill, Woodland Meadows, has ten years left before it hits capacity in 2026 and closes. The host agreement was signed in 1990 and it has been amended four times. When the landfill closes the agreements expire.

"Waste Management really would be done here," Myers said, and so would the free trash pickup and dumping for residents, along with the tipping fees and the \$365,000 a year donated to parks and recreation, cultural events, and public health and safety (police and fire).

Myers said Waste Management began negotiations 2 ½ to 3 years ago for an amendment to extend the present 269-acre landfill to the 189 acres of the golf course.

Instead of closing in 2026, the golf course property would allow it to operate another 30 years, to 2056, giving it a lifespan of 40 more years.

Myers said this would allow continued funding to the township, projecting an additional \$160 million in benefits over the next 40 years and \$11 million in grants not in the current agreement. Plus \$780,000 for senior programming.

But, the agreement allows for only five more years of free trash pickup, with pickup running until Dec. 31, 2021. After that, residents would pay for pickup and he estimated Waste Management could do it for \$10 per household per month.

The free disposal of waste at the landfill would continue for the next 40 years, he said.

The agreement is for no truck entrance on Ecorse Road and property value guarantees for the few homes on Hannan and Ecorse near the landfill. Waste Management



pledges to pay 150% of fair market value.

Setbacks would be 450' from property lines, he said.

"In order to take the golfcourse and convert it to a landfill, we won't need the clubhouse," Myers said, explaining Waste Management is offering to lease the clubhouse building to the township for \$1 per year and an annual grant of \$5,000 for maintenance.

And, Waste Management will pay Van Buren Township a one-time lump sum of \$8 million at the time it receives a letter of consistency from Wayne County. This would include air permit, water permit, and solid waste permit and inclusion of the extension on the Wayne County Solid Waste Plan.

"If you were going to vote in favor, it would take three to six months to secure that letter from Wayne County," Myers said. "I don't think there's a lot of risk in that ... and we would make the payment of \$8 million."

He said without the fifth amendment, the landfill will close in 2026 and there will be no more fees paid to the township.

With the amendment, they would expand the landfill by 189 acres to the south and it would run to 2056, and the township would get an additional \$160 million over the next 40 years and free disposal.

Trustee Reggie Miller asked about an escalator clause and Myers said right now the host fees are set at \$1 per ton and increase at Consumer Price Index or 4%, whichever is greater.

"We will tone it down to 2% or CPI, whichever is less," Myers said.

Trustee Miller asked about fracking waste and Myers said the negotiating committee asked them not to take fracking waste and they agreed.

"Can I ask a question?" said Trustee Jeff Jahr, stating he was not referring to a confidential letter from township attorney Patrick McCauley.

"Somewhere I heard that the agreement allows you to bury anything that is permitted by Wayne County, with the exception of hydrologic fracturing waste," Trustee Jahr said.

"We can take it today," Myers replied.

"That's one of the reasons I want this to go to the Environmental Commission for review," said Jahr, who had been a member of that commission for many years. He noted that the township's deputy director of planning and economic development [Matthew Best], who meets with the Environmental Commission, is very knowledgeable on environmental matters.

Trustee Brenda McClanahan asked if the township would continue to get the guaranteed \$650,000 and Myers said that was in the original agreement and, "That guarantee has not been lost."

Myers had said earlier the present landfill had a height limit of 250' with a flat top and the extension would go no higher.

Jahr asked how high the existing landfill is right now and Myers said he didn't know but he could find out. "It's going to be bigger with 10 more years of trash put in there," Jahr noted.

Clerk Wright started quoting some figures and Jahr asked if board members got that information and Wright said no,

they hadn't.

"Oh, it's a 'You have to pass it to find out' situation," Jahr joked.

Jahr said he wasn't around when the original agreement was approved and he said there will be no waste for a 500' setback and Myers said that was so.

"I've heard somewhere there will be ancillary buildings, sedimentation basins, power plant, gas storage building, and flares in the setback," Jahr said. "Will there be cogeneration?"

Myers said their gas structure is north of Van Born.

"I haven't had the opportunity to read the contract," Jahr said. "But it's not a real setback. There will be more than landscaping."

"In fairness, we have to have a public hearing," Jahr said. "I represent the community and I want to hear what they think about this."

"My concern is the odor," said Trustee Miller. "I don't have a map ... How is this going to affect the residents?"

Myers said law requires active gas collection with a blower station.

Supervisor Combs said she has never had an odor complaint about Waste Management, but many from EQ [hazardous waste landfill].

"Is money going to public safety?" Miller asked and Myers replied it is in the existing agreement and is being carried forward.

He said the location will look like it does now, with internal roads and the main entry on Van Born.

"Could we get a drawing from you?" Miller asked and Myers said they could.

"The negotiating committee asked us never to do curb cuts on Ecorse Road and our entry will stay on Van Born with no change in the truck route," Myers said.

Jahr said Ecorse Road is going to be the east-west artery and Grace Lake's entry is there, too.

"Flares and power plants? That's what I'm concerned about," Jahr said.

Trustee Hart said it was his fault that the negotiations dragged on so long because they were taking away pickup.

"We have to have someone pick up the waste," Hart said. "We have uniform totes now, uniform trucks coming on certain days ... We negotiated the best we could. It was a different environment when we negotiated back in the 1990s."

Myers said the pickup and disposal is worth \$1.5 million per year. He said in Livonia every resident had a different vendor and now Waste Management picks up and bills the city.

Jahr said, "Waste Management will give us \$8 million to get them off the hook"

(continued on page 13)

O P I N I O N S

Editorial

Candidates, supporters worked hard on election

No matter whether you are happy or sad with the results of Tuesday's General Election, you've got to hand it to the people who worked so hard for their candidates or proposals.

On Tuesday night, an exhausted volunteer for the Democrat Party was at Belleville City Hall seeking voting information. She said she had been working 12 hours a day for 98 days (the August primary) and was exhausted. A volunteer was supposed to go to St. Anthony Church, the polling location for the city of Belleville, to get the number of ballots cast, but that person was new and went to St. Anthony in Detroit instead. She showed a picture of herself asleep on some folding chairs the night before.

Joy Cichewicz was in the Sumpter Township Hall Tuesday night after being at the polls all day promoting the district library proposals. She was exhausted but encouraged because this time the voters didn't call her names and gave her a thumbs up. They weren't so kind for the first proposal by the library board.

At Van Buren Township Hall Tuesday night, Reggie Miller, seeking reelection as trustee, also was exhausted. She had been out at the polls since early morning and had been rained on. She went through several pairs of dry socks – and her shoes were supposed to be waterproof.

These are but a few examples of the dedication and drive people exhibited for this election. Bless them all. It's over.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

We remember years ago when Van Buren Township Supervisor Dave Jacokes negotiated an expansion to the Woodland Meadows landfill, owned by Waste Management, and then left office. Next thing we knew he was working for Waste Management and had a lovely home in Arizona, WM's headquarters.

That's why some people – including Diane Madigan who brought information to public attention -- are concerned about the campaign contributions from Waste Management to VBT elected officials, especially those now negotiating the new amendment to the landfill agreement.

Present VBT Supervisor Linda Combs, who did not accept contributions from Waste Management, said last week, "Not one person on this board you could bribe for this piddly amount of money." An unfortunate choice of words.

Jennifer Price from Van Buren Township Public Services Department said the township gets a report to show its yearly progress in recycling. She said VBT residents recycled 985 tons in 2014 and 1,027 tons in 2015. She said they are looking forward to getting the numbers for 2016.

She said a 32-gallon can may be used as a recycle bin, but you have to put a recycling sticker on it so it can be properly identified. If you call the office at 699-8921 they will mail you a sticker. That's for VBT residents only.

Jennifer said the guidelines for recycling have been updated and now people can recycle old pots and pans.



A motorist was alarmed on Election Day to see two Belleville DPW trucks and two city employees with a shovel and what he thought was a post-hole digger next to a huge election sign for James Chapman not far from the Welcome to Belleville sign at about 9:35 a.m. When they left the sign in place, he came to see me.

He was sure they had planted it and could not understand why they did it.

I called DPW Director Rick Rutherford at city hall and he explained. He said the sign had been put up overnight and he went out to investigate whether it was on city property, where it is not allowed, or on the Hayward party store property next door. He and a DPW worker used a metal detector and shovel to find the marker for the property line and found it was on Hayward's property.

Then, he double-checked with the city ordinance and found the 32-square-foot sign was a hair below the allowable size.

He said if he found it to be illegal, he would remove it.

We received reports of people gathering at the polls early on Tuesday morning to vote. At St. Anthony Catholic Church Father Folta Building, where both city precincts are located, people were lined up 100 deep at 6:30 a.m. when the doors opened for the 7 a.m. opening of the polls.

In Sumpter and Van Buren townships they also reported times when there were

long lines of anxious voters waiting to cast their ballots.


It is so good to hear that people are anxious to vote. We've had too many elections when voters were scant.

On Sunday we went out to Woodland Meadows, the golf course owned by the landfill, to take a picture to run with my story on Waste Management wanting to expand its landfill into the golf course. It was a beautiful day and the trees were gorgeous. There were many golf carts buzzing around the parking lot where we paused to enjoy the surroundings. The golf carts had fathers and young sons having a great time on a Sunday afternoon.

It is too bad the landfill finally wants its golf course back to bury more trash. But, that's what the plan had been all along. It's all business, you know.

We the people have elected the 45th President of the United States and there are great hopes that Donald Trump will make America great again. It's in everyone's best interests to help him help the country – and to pray for America and our new President.





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Home phone (no ads, please!): 697-8290

Advertising Manager: Bob Mytych

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Production Manager: James Otzman

Office Manager: Janet Millard

Business Manager: Gerald McKelvey

Editorial Cartoonist: Bob Mytych

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Letters

Display a flag Nov. 11 to honor our veterans

To the Editor, Belleville Residents, and all My South Biggs Neighbors:

A REMINDER!

Friday, Nov. 11, is Veterans Day. It is an official United States federal holiday that is observed annually on Nov. 11, honoring people who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces, also known as Veterans.

Originally called "Armistice Day," Congress amended the bill on June 1, 1954, replacing "Armistice" with "Veterans," and it has been known as Veterans Day since.

U.S. President Woodrow Wilson first proclaimed Armistice Day for Nov. 11, 1919.

Many Americans mistakenly believe that Veterans Day is the day America sets aside to honor American military personnel who died in battle, or as a result of wounds sustained from combat. That's not quite true.

Memorial Day is the day set aside to honor America's war dead.

Veterans Day, on the other hand, honors ALL American veterans, both living and dead.

In fact, Veterans Day is largely intended to thank LIVING veterans for dedicated and loyal service to their country. Many companies offer free meals to Veterans: Google "veterans day free meals" for info on free or discounted meals for all Veterans with proper I.D.

Nov. 11 of each year is the day that we ensure ALL veterans know that we deeply appreciate the sacrifices they have made in their lives to keep our country free.

Show your respect and pride for our veterans by displaying a flag in front of your home. I will attempt to have a supply of FREE flags in front of my home (48 S. Biggs). Take one and join all my neighbors with a display any American city would be proud of.

Pete Pitzen

Belleville Resident

Life member VFW Post 4434

Students collect candy for troops overseas

To the Editor,

Trick or Treating has a different meaning for the students at Owen Intermediate School. They collected Halloween candy for a great cause!

This year they brought in 250 pounds of sweetness for Project Treats for Troops! The candy will be mailed overseas and handed out to the troops who were not able to celebrate Halloween with their families.

Sometimes a simple piece of Halloween candy is all it takes to put a smile on the face of a soldier thousands of miles from home. Thank you, Owen Tigers!

Angela Mercer

Thank you for your support, prayers

To the Editor:

The Perez family would like to thank the Belleville and surrounding community for their support and prayers during our difficult time as we mourn the loss of our son Daniel Perez on Oct. 25, 2016.

God bless you,
 Jesse Perez Family
 Dos Pesos Mexican

Thanks to Dos Pesos, Twisted Rooster, Egan's

To the Editor,

Thanks to Dos Pesos, Twisted Rooster and Egan's for supporting Secure VBT Public Safety Millage effort.

One of my favorite things about living in Van Buren Township / Belleville is how much local businesses are a part of our community. The businesses within our community really make our community a community. Where people are living together and committed to our area.

These businesses are always ready to get involved and help with causes that are near to our hearts. For example, Egan's Pub, Twisted Rooster and Dos Pesos generously agreed to do a "Dine to Donate" to help raise money for the Secure VBT Public Safety Committee. Their partnership allowed our committee to raise money for the above-mentioned campaign effort. These restaurants donated 15%-20% of their profits on certain days to our cause.

Egan's, Twisted Rooster and Dos Pesos, thank you for being such a special part of our community. Community members, please remember to support these fine establishments as they have supported us. We might be a small community but we're stronger together!

Medina Atchinson

Member of Secure VBT Public Safety Committee

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More Letters

St. Jude's Novena answered my prayer

To the Editor,

If you say this prayer nine times a day, by the eighth day your prayer will be answered. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised when you receive what you've been asking for.

St. Jude's Novena

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved, and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, keeper of the hopeless, pray for us.

This is a "thank you" to St. Jude for answering my novena that I made to him. God bless.

K.L.W.

Resident, City of Belleville



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Obituaries



John Stephan Roberts

JOHN STEPHAN ROBERTS

May 8, 1956 – October 31, 2016

John Stephan Roberts, age 60, of Van Buren Township, MI, passed away Monday, October 31, 2016 at his home. He was born May 8, 1956 in Bronx, New York, twin son of Jesse Lee & Rosa Patricia (Williams) Roberts.

John was an active member of Belleville Freewill Baptist Church, where he loved spending time with the congregation. He was also very close with the Fresenius Kidney care of Romulus community. He was there for the providers and patients alike, three days a week for eight years. John enjoyed body-building, playing guitar and loved to read. He was very intelligent and astute in nearly everything. John also loved cooking. He would cook at all friends and family events and occasions. He was also a Hot Rod enthusiast. His Cadillacs "Betsy" and "Pearl" were his pride and joy. Most of all, John loved Conversations with Family and Friends.

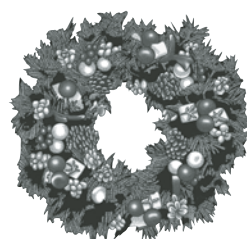
Mr. Roberts is survived by his daughter JoVanna Habjan of Concord, California; 3 grandchildren Adarius, Jazmin and Donovan; twin brother Alan (Roxanne) Roberts of Brentwood, California; sister Anita (David) Roberts of California; brother Abraham (Barbara) Picou of Ypsilanti, MI; nine nieces & nephews Jaylani, Daniel, James, Rachael, Joy, Iyanna, Tiara, Andre and Jamal; great-niece & nephews Zahra, Malachi and Elijan; cousins Carmen, Martha, Rita, Robin, Tony, Pat and Vivian. John is also survived by close friends and brothers at heart: O'Sean Fields, Hans Solo Stopa, Mellow Melvin Moore, Shawn Barrett and Bobby Bailey. He was preceded in death by his parents.

A visitation and funeral service was held Saturday, November 5, 2016 at Belleville Freewill Baptist Church, 750 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, with Pastor Jack Daniels officiating. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in John's name are encouraged to the National Kidney Foundation, 1169 Oak Valley Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48108.

CATHERINE RIVIERA

(February 2, 1920 - November 3, 2016)

Age 96 of Belleville. Survived by four children, four grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. Visitation 10 a.m. to noon on Friday, Nov. 11, with a Rosary at noon, at the David C. Brown Funeral Home.



More Obituaries

on page 8



Richard M. Donahey

RICHARD M. DONAHEY

(May 3, 1928 – November 1, 2016)

Richard Donahey was born May 3, 1928 to Milton and Grace Donahey. He grew up in Detroit and graduated from Northwestern High School where he played cornet in the school orchestra. His wife Patricia played violin and they met in the 10th grade.

Richard and Patricia were married in 1949, and their 2 children were born in 1952 (Linda) and 1953 (Jim). They raised their family in Livonia and moved to Belleville, Michigan in 1973.

In 1955, while working for Dy-Dee Wash servicing customers, Richard began his studies in the Business Administration program at Wayne State University attending evening classes. He graduated in 1965.

He joined his father Milton in business at United Brass Manufacturers, Inc. in 1959 when the business was 9 years old, eventually becoming President, from which he retired after 47 years in 2006. This family business remains in Romulus today, proudly manufacturing valves and fittings utilizing "100% Made in the USA" materials with a dedicated and conscientious staff.

For many years Richard dedicated his time and resources, assuming various leadership roles, in support of the needs and programs of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Romulus Rotary Club, Romulus Boys and Girls Club, Belleville Boys & Girls Club, and many other charitable causes.

Richard was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. He regularly put the needs of his family, friends, and others before his own and was loved by those who knew him for his caring and friendship.

He thoroughly enjoyed his experiences as a private pilot and a restorer and collector of antique automobiles. He and Patricia belonged to many antique car clubs and toured in their old cars throughout many parts of North America and other countries. They also enjoyed getting away from the winter cold through cruises around the world in their retirement years.

Richard is survived by his wife Patricia; daughter Linda (Gary) Paris of Canton, MI; son Jim (Patsy) Donahey of Ann Arbor, MI; grandchildren: the late Melissa (d. 1992), Cindy (Michael) Shillingford of Florida, Val Paris of Arizona, Stephanie (Joseph) Paunovich of California, Rachel (Chad) Amonio of North Carolina, Evan Donahey of Ann Arbor and Michael Donahey of Ann Arbor; six great-grandchildren: Benjamin, Oliver, Adrianna, Whitney, Vincent, and Austin. Also survived by many loving extended family and friends.

Visitation was held Thursday November 3, at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Drive in Belleville. (Phone 697-4500).

The Funeral service was on Friday November 4, at St. Paul Lutheran Church, located at 47445 West Huron River Drive in Belleville (at the corner of Elwell Road). An hour of visitation was held before the service.

If anyone feels so inclined, in lieu of flowers, we are suggesting a small contribution to: The Richard and Patricia Donahey Boys & Girls Club in Belleville; <http://www.bgcsbm.org/locations/donahey-club/>

Obituaries



Vivian Faye Sotomayor

VIVIAN 'FAYE' SOTOMAYOR

July 24, 1931 - November 2, 2016

Vivian Faye Sotomayor, age 85, of Ypsilanti, MI, a long-time Belleville resident, passed away Wednesday, November 2, 2016 at home.

She was born July 24, 1931 in Ronco, Pennsylvania, daughter of Kenneth and Rosella (Grimm) Witt.

Mrs. Sotomayor was a very active member of her church. She was a past president of the Business and Professional Women of Belleville. She enjoyed time with family and loved cooking and baking.

Faye was preceded in death by her cherished husband Miguel on July 1, 2011. She is the loving mother of Prima (Tim) Vesey of Milan, MI, Diane (Daniel) Dzierbicki of Ypsilanti, MI, Valerie Moore of Willis, MI, Mike (Denise) Sotomayor of Ypsilanti, MI, Sue (Gary) Altobello of Belleville, Sandy (Allen) of Colorado (d. 2003), and Gloria (Robert) Goike of Canton (d. 2015). Beloved grandmother of 14, great-grandmother of 3. Fond sister of Verdian (Richard) Helgeson of Tennessee, Mary Ellen (Glenn) Ross of Pennsylvania and Gene (Pauletta) Witt of Pennsylvania, also many other extended family and friends.

Visitation was Sunday at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Drive, Belleville, MI 48111-2764 (734) 697-4500. Funeral services were Monday, November 7, 2016 at First United Methodist Church, 417 Charles St., Belleville, with Rev. James Walker officiating. The family greeted guests an hour prior to the service. Interment was in Hillside Cemetery, Belleville, MI.

Memorial contributions may be made to First United Methodist Church, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital or Pancreatic Cancer, and would be appreciated by the family. Please sign her on-line guest book and share a memory for her family to treasure at www.davidcbrownfh.com.



Orlanda Lee Chudzinski

ORLANDA LEE CHUDZINSKI

(October 13, 1941 – October 31, 2016)

Orlanda L. Chudzinski, 75, of Houghton Lake, died October 31, 2016 at her home.

A service will be held Saturday, November 12, 2016 at 10 a.m. at Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church, with Father Rolando Silva officiating. Burial will be in Michigan Memorial Park, Flat Rock. Memorial donations may be made to Our Lady of the Lake Regional Catholic School.

Born in Willis October 13, 1941, she was the daughter of James and Mary (Keilmann) Ackron. She and Joseph A. Chudzinski were married 25 years.

She moved to Houghton Lake in 1972 where she farmed and raised her family. She worked in the services industry. She attended Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church and was an active member of the Houghton Lake Eagles Club. Preceding her in death were her brothers James, Harold, Jerry and Norman; sister Joyce; son-in-law Al Miller and Dewey Kyles; mother Mary (Keilmann) Ackron and father James Ackron. Surviving Mrs. Chudzinski are her children Audrey Kyles of Canton, Joseph (Laurie) Chudzinski of Houghton Lake, Andrea Chudzinski of Houghton Lake, David (Paula) Chudzinski of Belleville, Cathy Miller of Falmouth, and Linda Kay (Brian) Kuenzer of Falmouth; 15 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

Sumpter Township Parks, Recreation

Open House set Nov. 17

Sumpter Township is sponsoring a parks & recreation open house to receive input from the public regarding the township's upcoming Parks and Recreation Master Plan update.

Residents are invited to join their neighbors and township officials and exchange ideas on the future of the community. Comments will directly impact the outcome of the upcoming five-year Parks & Recreation Master Plan update for the township. This plan will be the guiding document for future decision-making, outlining the goals and objectives for the township's activities for the coming years.

The Sumpter Township Parks and Recreation open house will be held on Thursday, Nov. 17, from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Sumpter Township Hall, 23480 Sumpter Road.

Holiday Season Storytimes set at Belleville Area District Library

Here is the Storytime schedule for the Holiday Season at the Belleville Area District Library. (Register for Storytimes at the circulation desk, as they fill up fast.)

- Family Storytime is for kids ages 5-11-years old, and will be held at 6:30 p.m. Mondays, Nov. 7-Dec. 12.

- Toddler Storytime is for kids ages 2-4, and will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesdays, Nov. 8-Dec. 6.

- Toddler Storytime is for kids ages 2-4, and will be held on Thursdays, at 11 a.m., Nov. 10 - Dec. 8.

Come see Santa at the Library from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 12.

The Belleville Area District Library will be closed on Friday, Nov. 11, for Veterans Day and Thursday, Nov. 24 and Friday,

Nov. 25 for the Thanksgiving holidays.

Tara K. McCann
Youth/Teen Services Librarian
Belleville Area District Library
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Upcoming Meetings

- Thursday, Nov. 10 – Keystone Academy School Board, 6 p.m. Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.
- Monday, Nov. 14 – Van Buren Township work/study session, 4 p.m. Also, Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., BHS Commons.
- Tuesday, Nov. 15 – City of Belleville special meeting at 6 p.m. to interview candidates who have applied for the vacant 1-year position on the city council. Also, Van Buren Township regular board meeting, 7 p.m. Also, Belleville Area District Library Board, 7:30 p.m. (moved from regular meeting night because of General Election)
- Wednesday, Nov. 16 – Belleville Downtown Development Authority, 6 p.m. Also, Van Buren Township Environmental Commission meeting, 7 p.m.

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See Letter to the Editor, or Learn more at:
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More Letters

Nov. 17 event at Moose to benefit Teri Hagen-Cranson

To the Editor:

Save the date of Thursday, Nov. 17 for the "Original Quarter-mania w/Stacy" at the Belleville Moose to help Teri Hagen-Cranson wage war on stage four metastatic breast cancer.

Metastatic breast cancer is when the cancer has left the breast and spread to other parts of the body, at which point there is presently no cure. Researchers are working diligently to discover a cure, but this disease, unlike many others, has the ability to mutate, so treatment ultimately fails. Options are limited and time is running out.

My cancer journey began in May 2000, stage 1 DCIS. I had the traditional lumpectomy, lymph nodes removed, chemo, radiation and Tamoxifen. All clear at five years. In 2010, practically 10 years to the date from the onset date, we discovered that it had now spread/metastasized throughout my pelvic bones and some in my lower spine, as well.

With the amazing doctors and treatment from U of M, and by the Grace of God, I'd managed to keep it to the bone only -- up until last fall. That was when we discovered breast cancer tumors in my liver and in both lungs. This meant a change in treatment. The anti-estrogen medicine that had been keeping the cancer stable, was no longer working as the cells had mutated. Oral chemo in the form of Xeloda started Jan. 1, 2016. As my insurance does not cover this newly approved by the FDA however, effective treatment, I was blessed that a grant was found to cover one year of treatment.

That year expired this past Oct 22. We are now searching for more such grants to cover my chemo; as well as a way to replace my handicap ramp that is rotting away (and not covered); find handicap accessible housing (not an apartment) with a yard where I can still enjoy my plants and mini garden, and keep our fur-baby Marcy Kat -- from feral to spoiled family member, as she truly is therapeutic to both my husband and myself; prepay for end-of-life expenses (funeral, headstone); and possibly find a way to include my daughter, grandchildren, and my husband's children on a REAL family vacation -- sooner, rather than later; as we are pretty sure there will not be time in our future for such a vacation. I will only be declining in health, not getting

healthier, to where I could enjoy such a vacation in "a few more years". The average lifespan for someone diagnosed with MBC is three to five years. I am entering year seven.

Many of you may have seen posts from me in the past either here in the *Independent* or on Facebook with fundraisers or public service of some sort that I've organized for others. (Craft shows at former Belleville Coney Island, Lighthouse Church, organized clothing drive for Water's Edge fire victims, just to name a few.)

Perhaps, you saw me in the 2015 winter parade as a guest of the Rosie the Riveters where I was introduced and the MC announced my bucket list wish to be in a parade as an avid supporter of the Save the Bomber Plant Campaign.

Now, I am the one needing *your* help. You see, I have been living with stage 4 breast cancer since May 2010, and still found the energy and concern for others to set up benefits for them in their time of need. I have always been the person stepping forward to help others, a lesson I learned from my late mother: Always "Do unto others as you'd have them do unto you."

NEVER in my life, did I really think I'd be the one *asking for such help*.

Between my husband's bad back, preventing him from working his former construction job but not qualifying for disability, my cancer continuing to spread, and our home being too small to get around with my walker or a wheelchair after a partial hip replacement, finding out my Medicare won't cover a new wheelchair ramp (ours is wood and rotting away), to the constant travel expenses of going to and from the University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center from Belleville. We are currently struggling to survive on my SSDI benefits. The great folks at ~QUARTERMANIA~ are holding a fundraiser to help us better cover these expenses. With your support and by joining us Thursday, Nov. 17, at Belleville Moose Family Center #934, 45476 Harris Road (corner of Sumpter) Belleville. Registration is from 6-7 p.m., and bidding from 7-9 p.m. You can help make our lives just a little bit less complicated in a time where the future seems non-existent. Learn more about this event by checking out the Facebook Event page: Original Quartermania w/Stacy helps TLC Wage WAR on Stage IV at <https://www.facebook.com/events/199010677194042/>.

I hope you can join us! If you can't but do wish to donate, you can donate directly to my PayPal Me link <https://www.paypal.me/TLCwageWARonMBC>. IF anyone has any questions, feel free to email me at BellevilleMIACVM@gmail.com. Thank you and God bless you. Teri Hagen-Cranson aka "TLC"



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The St. Joseph Council of Catholic Women will be holding its holiday craft show on Saturday, Nov. 19, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church Holy Family Center at 9425 Whittaker Road in Ypsilanti. A luncheon and bake sale will be available and Santa and Mrs. Claus will be there for pictures, from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

A Craft & Vendor Show will take place this Saturday, Nov. 12, from 1 to 4 p.m. at Village Green Apartments in Belleville. There will be a variety of crafts for sale, including jewelry, Avon products, handmade baby clothes and much more. Crafters and vendors are welcome with free table space available. Call Debbie at (734) 301-8390.

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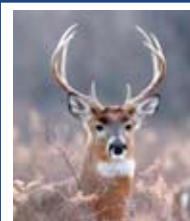
Facebook @ trexarmsllc. Call (734) 325-7898.

The Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue, based in Sumpter, have two meet and greet pet adoption events coming up. This Saturday, Nov. 12, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. they are at the Tractor Supply Store in Saline and on Saturday, Nov. 19, also from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Petco Pet Store on Warren Avenue across from Westland Mall. Call (734) 461-9458.

The evening Owl Prowls interpretive program at the Oakwoods Metropark Nature Center is so popular, that the center will be holding them every Friday and Saturday evening at 6 p.m. through Dec. 3. The cost of \$6 per person includes a short slide presentation introducing the owls of Michigan and the handful that frequent the area, including the Eastern Screech Owl. I've been to some of these events and the success rate of hearing owls call back to other owl voice recordings is excellent. To register, call (734) 782-3956.

Do you have a business item you would like to see in this column? Call Bob Mytych at (734) 699-9020 with your suggestion. There is no charge to be in this column.

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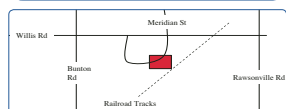
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Birthdays

Nov. 2 – Jamica Thomas
 Nov. 10 – Jim Graham
 Nov. 11 – Mary Buckner, Alyssa and Joey Johnson, Nevaeh Robinson
 Nov. 12 – Debbie Wisniewski
 Nov. 15 – Beverly Neal
 Nov. 16 – Pete LaFramboise
 Nov. 17 – Linnie Griffin
 Nov. 18 – Pat Veerkamp
 Nov. 24 – Lillian McArthur

Do you have a birthday in November? Does anyone you know have a birthday soon? Call the *Independent* at 699-9020 and let us know. We'll list it in this column ASAP following your call. There is no charge.



Independent photos by Bob Mytych

Leo's Coney Island on Belleville Road celebrated its fifth anniversary with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Nov. 4 with the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce, chamber members, government officials, Van Buren Public Safety employees, and the patrons who happen to be dining inside at the time. A large cake was cut and served to everyone. The restaurant also presented a check to the VBT Fire Department for \$700, which came from a 10% Dine to Donate event held on 9-11.

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The Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon-cutting ceremony Nov. 4 at the Willis AAA Agency on Belleville Road. Family, friends and employees of Agent Velon Willis that attended included Francis Young, Jeremiah Posey, Aubrey Young, Carol Gomes, Vezina Williams, Melissa Whiting, Trina Hardville, Danna Fenoy, Michelle Coopshaw, Endia Young, Chelsey Wallace, and Sheila Wallace. Belleville Chamber members and township officials also attended.

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Things to do in the Belleville area...

• **Thursday, Nov. 10** – “A Viking Cruise: Into the Midnight Sun” will be presented at 7 p.m. at the Belleville Area District Library as part of its ongoing Homegrown Knowledge series. Travel along with Dee Crowe to Iceland, Norway, and Scotland, along with stories and pictures from a previous trip to Sweden. Free. Refreshments.

• **Thursday, Nov. 10** – Help the Belleville Lions Club raise money for its worthy causes. Eat at Leo’s Coney Island on Belleville Road between noon and 8 p.m. and 10% of your tab will go to the Lions. Use flyer in the restaurant.

• **Friday, Nov. 11** – State Senator Hoon-Yung Hopgood, D. Taylor, invites veterans to a free movie at 1 p.m. at MJR Westland Grand Cinema 16, 6800 N. Wayne Rd., Westland. The movie is “Inferno” (PG-13) — which is based on the bestselling novel in author Dan Brown’s Da Vinci Code series. Tickets are limited to two per veteran and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. RSVP is required, (517) 373-7800.

• **Friday, Nov. 11** – State Senator Hoon-Yung Hopgood, D. Taylor, invites members of the community to join him for a 3 p.m. coffee hour at Romulus House, 9110 Wayne Road, Romulus, MI 48174. Sen. Hopgood represents the 6th Senate District, which includes Belleville, Sumpter Township, and Van Buren Township.

• **Saturday, Nov. 12** – Roast Beef Dinner served from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Community United Methodist Church, 11160 Olive Street in Romulus. Donations are \$10 for adults, \$4 for children 6-12, with children 5 and under free. For carry-out call (734) 941-0736 after 5 p.m.

• **Sunday, Nov. 13** – Jay Frandsen with Dick Johnson perform from 2 to 5 p.m. at September Days Senior Center, 46425

Tyler Road, Van Buren Township. Free. Information: Mike Hoben (734) 260-1170 or Lynette Jordan (734) 699-8918.

• **Sunday, Nov. 13** – Help with the Emily’s Happy Feet project by bringing new, non-skid slippers to the Wayne County Fairgrounds’ Abbott Building from 2 to 4 p.m. These slippers will be distributed to infants through teenagers at the Ronald McDonald House in Ann Arbor on Thanksgiving.

• **Wednesday, Nov. 16** – Free program 7-8 p.m. at the Belleville Area District Library for high school and college students. “Overcome Exam Panic and Test Stress” will be presented by Conrad Welsing. This program is designed to help students and teachers prepare for exams by using

relaxation and concentration methods. RSVP to (734) 516-5962 or to conrad@aaiA2.com. Also runs Nov. 23.

• **Saturday, Nov. 19** – Belleville Senior Co-op Holiday Bazaar, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., 575 Sumpter Road, Belleville. Handmade gifts for children and adults. A fund and exciting shopping experience.

• **Sunday, Nov. 20** – 18 Strings perform from 2 to 5 p.m. at September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township. Free. Information: Mike Hoben (734) 260-1170 or Lynette Jordan (734) 699-8918.

“You have to be odd to be number one.”
— Dr. Seuss


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WM landfill

(continued from page 3)

for \$1.5 million a year and dump it on the citizens ... It's a bait and switch. They are not giving us \$8 million out of the kindness of their heart."

Jahr said this board has always said "our residents are spoiled and don't know how good they have it" with free trash pickup.

"Ending it five years early is problematic," Jahr said.

"There's not a rush here," said Miller. "We can get answers to our questions ... and Waste Management is not going to walk away."

"It will give me time to look into this," Jahr said. "We could take the \$8 million and spend it on paying for trash pickup, but then the money will run out."

Clerk Wright said it took the negotiating committee 2½ years to get this agreement.

"It is something the residents will adjust to," Wright said. "No way is it a bait and switch." He said the Public Safety Millage has been called a bait and switch and at no time was it a bait and switch. "That bait and switch thing rubs me the wrong way."

"We pick up \$8 million and put an obligation on the residents," Jahr said.

Miller asked when the negotiations were finished and Hart said it was a couple of months ago. He explained there was cleanup and work by the attorneys to get the numbers right.

"Without the agreement we will be paying for the disposal and pickup," Combs said.

Trustee Brenda McClanahan said people want to know the cost for curbside pickup, especially the senior citizens.

Jahr said he remembers talk about excavating dirt from the golf course to take to Detroit. He asked when excavation would begin in the golf course.

Myers said Waste Management has a contract with American Golf until the end of the 2017 golf year. "It's not a highly used golf course," he said.

"But it is a nice facility," Jahr said. "It's nicer to have a golf course in Van Buren Township – more desirable than a landfill."

Jahr said the landfill is paying the township \$8 million to offset its responsibility to provide trash pickup.

"And, it's compensation for having no golf course. They will lease the golf building to VBT for \$1 a year. Why do we want it?" Jahr asked.

Combs said it could be used for recreation and senior programming.

"We took a tour of it," Hart said. "It's

2016 Campaign Contributions		
Sharry Budd	Waste Management	\$500
Leon Wright	Waste Management	\$150
Phil Hart	Waste Management	\$500
Kevin McNamara	Waste Management	\$500
Kevin McNamara	James Logsdon, Waste Consultant Waste Management	\$200
Phil Hart	James Logsdon, Waste Consultant Waste Management	\$1,000
2012 Campaign Contributions		
Sharry Budd	EQ	\$400
Leon Wright	EQ	\$400
Phil Hart	EQ	\$300

Compiled by Diane Madigan

in great condition. ... It's an absolutely beautiful facility, but maintenance would be more than \$5,000."

"I don't think the township wants to go into the restaurant and catering business," Jahr said.

Wright said he golfs there every Friday and walks outside and doesn't smell anything.

"You must be doing a great job," Wright said to Waste Management. "We are lacking amenities in this township ... We could put on more activities ... We have a lot of programs we could put on."

Public comment

Diane Madigan said she wanted to talk about campaign contributions from Waste management to board members, which she called a conflict of interest to negotiate or vote on this contract after contributions were received.

She named Trustee Hart, Clerk Wright, and incoming Supervisor Kevin McNamara as taking contributions from Waste Management and passed out a chart showing the contributions, from \$550 to \$1,500.

"Not one person on this board you could bribe for this piddly amount of money," said Combs.

"We have to consider the best interests of the township," said Jahr. "Campaign contributions have nothing to do with it ... But to rush this through is morally wrong. It's set for a hearing on the 14th and a vote on the 15th."

"This is it," Miller said. "The illusion you took something for something else."

"Three board members said this is the best we could do," Jahr said.

"You told me we needed to vote on this or they would back out," Miller said to Combs.

"Leon told me that and Linda Combs told me that," Jahr agreed.

"The perception [of wrong-doing] is there," McClanahan said of the campaign contributions.

"I'm not insinuating ..." Jahr said.

"I'm not going to sit here while you call me a crook," Wright said.

"It's improper," Madigan replied. "You're talking about residents at risk for health and definite noxious odors ... It's just the wrong thing to do. Phil, you sit there and look smug. What did you do with the \$1,000?"

"I'll never convince you of my integrity," Hart said to Madigan.

John Delaney said Madigan has been looking at campaign contributions for the last eight years at least and she never said anyone was a crook.

"She disclosed the campaign contributions," Delaney said, noting those who got them should say they got the money before they vote.

Delaney said if the \$8 million is put in escrow for trash pickup, "We're still stuck for 32 years. Eight million dollars is not really a good number."

Delaney asked for information on air quality and noted Wright has no medical background, nor does Hart who has an administrative background.

Paul White said if residents paid \$10 a month for trash pickup times 12 months that would be \$120 per year. That would make \$120 x 12,000 homes, equaling \$1.44 million per year. Over the next 40 years he said the township would have to pay \$57,600,000 for Waste Management to haul trash for the township, with no cost of living included.

White said the township should forget the \$8 million and insist on free trash pickup.

David Brownlee, chairman of the Environmental Commission, asked why the commission wasn't informed about this meeting. He said he stumbled onto a web site and found out about it. Otherwise, he would have first learned about the meeting in the following week's *Independent*.

"My feeling is there's no rush," Jahr said. "I think Waste Management would support calling for all the answers."

Chuck Finch said he lives on Hannan Road and this trading of a golf course for a dump moves the landfill a half mile closer to his home. He said he heard about this meeting just two hours previously.

Finch asked why it was so important to have the \$160 million from the dump and Combs replied, "Right now, the township is using the money to pay the bills."

"I'd just as soon pay for trash pickup," Finch replied.

Wright explained the landfill subsidizes the budget by \$3.2 million a year.

"It will be a very interesting vote on the 15th," Jahr said. He had planned to be in Washington, D.C., but changed his return ticket to be home for the work/study meeting on Nov. 14 and the regular meeting Nov. 15. He is not running for reelection, so these are his last meetings on the board.

"The next regularly scheduled meeting, I won't be there," Hart said. Earlier he had announced he has a longstanding plan to go deer hunting. "The Environmental Commission needs to get involved and we need more public feedback."

Myers offered to answer any question at any time for the board members.

"I think the newly elected board members should ask questions," Jahr said.




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The *Belleville-Area Independent* will not be liable for failure to publish an ad as requested or for more than one incorrect insertion of an advertisement. In the event of any error or omission in printing or publication of an advertisement, you must notify us within five days of publication or on the date of insertion, if an ad is scheduled as part of a package, so there is time to correct subsequent publications. The *Independent's* liability shall be limited to an adjustment for the cost of the space occupied by the error with a maximum liability being cancellation of the cost of the first incorrect advertisement or republication of the corrected advertisement. Under no circumstances shall the *Independent* be liable for consequential damages of any kind.

HELP WANTED

DRIVERS: Co. & O/O's. Home DAILY! \$3,000 Sign-on. Great Benefits. Paid Weekly! CDL-A. New Grads Welcome. 888-300-9935 11/10

DRIVERS: Local, No-Touch Openings! \$3000 Sign-on Bonus! Excellent Pay. Comprehensive Benefits & More! 2 yrs. CDL-A Experience. Apply: www.gopenske.com/careers. Job# 1608810. Call Penske Logistics: 855-582-4441 11/10

DRIVERS: Home DAILY! Earn up to \$1,000-\$1,200/week! CDL-A, 6 mos. OTR, Good Backgrnd. www.mtstrans.com 11/10

EXPERIENCED BARTENDER, part-time. Apply in person at Fraternal Order of Eagles, 9961 Beck, Belleville. 11/24

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

Quest, Inc. is HIRING

We're looking for fun, energetic & caring Direct Care Workers to assist persons with special needs we serve in their own homes.

Applicants must be:

- Responsible & committed and work well with others.
- Have a clean criminal record.
- Be available for training. MORC/WCHO/CLS Training is preferred.

**Send Letter/Resume to:
recruiter@questserv.org
or Call (734) 458-8140**



More Letters

Awed by Art!

Community Art Show

To the Editor:

Art inspires us and enlivens the communities we live in. It helps us to connect with each other and engage diverse thinkers from varied backgrounds in a single conversation – about art.

We like and encourage that through many of the activities and events that we support throughout the year.

And we are particularly proud of our Community Art Show, a signature event of our organization.

The Belleville Area Council for the Arts' Seventh-Annual Community Art Show would not have been the success that it was without communitywide support from our sponsors and donors including Belleville Bariatrics, David C. Brown Funeral Home, DiPietro & Day, P.C., Neil and Thelma Griffin, Barbara Rogalle Miller, Jean Morris, Kerry Morris, Power of the Purse, Mike and Charlene Renaud, and Sumpter Collision to our judges John Juriga, Barbara Rogalle Miller, Doug Peters, and Joselyn Rainey, as well as our esteemed artists.

Hundreds of area residents viewed more than 125 original works of art presented by 60 amazing artists over the three-day show last week.

We'd especially like to thank the Twisted Rooster, Egan's Pub and Sweet Cream Bakery for their generous support and contributions to the Community Art Show.

And, of course, recognize our board of directors and members, whose tireless efforts always result in something of lasting value in our community.

The Belleville area is a beautiful place to live, work, and play because of individuals and organizations like you. Thank you. Mendie Russell, president, Belleville Area Council for the Arts

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



John Dutton, III, age 9, right, with a first-place ribbon, and Haylee Ryan, 11, left, with a second-place ribbon, were two of the winners in the 6-12-year-old category at last week end's Seventh-Annual Community Art Show put on by the Belleville Area Council for the Arts.

Belleville Area Council for the Arts Art Show winners

People's Choice

Tim Elden, "What's in Your Closet?" and Chloe Abney (age 9), "Splatter Flowers"

Two-Dimensional Art

First Place -- John Mullinax, "Facing the Day"

Second Place -- Kim Ensich, "Break Free"

Third Place -- Margaret Waggoner, "Foggy Morning"

Three-Dimensional Art

First Place -- Loel Gnadt, "Cookie Keg"

Second Place -- Tim Elden, "What's in Your Closet?"

Third Place -- Maya Gold, "Koi Bag"

Teens

First Place -- Madison Miller, "Abstraction Photography"

Second Place -- Renee Crova, "Yawning Gecko"

Third Place -- Allyson Bowen, "Glam & Gore"

Youth

First Place -- John Dutton, age 9, Untitled

Second Place -- Haylee Ryan, age 11, Untitled

Third Place -- Braiden Davis, age 12, "Planet Winter"

With sadness I close Sumpter Pet Care

To the Editor:

Thank you for all your support over the years. It is with great sadness I begin to close down Sumpter Pet Care. I have received a warm reception from the Belleville community since the day I opened and remain thankful to be part of so many lives both human and animal.

I want to let you know that contrary to rumors, I am not ill, but this change is necessary for my general well-being as it has not been a profitable venture for me. It pains me deeply to say I am not cut out for the business part of veterinary medicine. Until our space is re-leased I will be at the clinic on Thursdays if people need to stop in to have a pet seen or pick up their original records.

Thanks, again, to everyone at the *Independent* for your support and friendship over the past six years!

Dr. Yvonne Craig

Belleville considers eliminating city medical marijuana zoning ordinance

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

After a lengthy presentation by attorney Steve Hitchcock on Monday, the Belleville City Council said it would look into eliminating the stand-alone zoning ordinance putting medical marijuana activity in the Industrial zoning district.

Hitchcock said in September the Michigan Legislature passed the Medical Marihuana Facilities Licensing Act, which was signed by the Governor. It will take effect Dec. 20, 2016, but no one can apply for a license under this Act for 360 days following the effective date.

After spelling out all the details of the new law, Hitchcock said if the city doesn't want to have medical marijuana sites it can amend the zoning ordinance to take out the special zoning.

"You can take that out and not have anything," attorney Hitchcock said. "You might not want growers in a small, tight

community like this."

Hitchcock said it is a long Act and does dramatically change the footprint of marijuana in the state. He said this new Act is considered a step toward legalization of recreational marijuana in the state and he expects that to be on an upcoming ballot.

Mayor Kerreen Conley said the council will do something within the next year on this after a public meeting to get the residents' viewpoints. She asked the city manager to put it on the Follow-Up List.

Mayor Conley said they also want to have another public meeting on roads before the end of the year.

In other business at Monday's meeting, the council:

- Learned the Special Events Ordinance is being worked on by City Manager Diana Kollmeyer, Councilman Tom Fielder, and billing clerk Kim Tindall and is expected to be on the agenda of the next regular meeting;

- Heard Councilman Fielder read a proclamation designating the month of November as Veteran's History and Appreciation Month in the City of Belleville;

- Approved the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce's plans for the Winter Fest activities on Dec. 2 and 3 and Parade of Lights on Dec. 3. Main Street will be closed from Third to Fifth streets from noon to 8 p.m. on Dec. 3, with a rolling street closure from 6 to 8 p.m. for the parade from the high school on West Columbia Avenue to Five Points and up Main to the closure at Third and beyond. They will put a tent up at the Fourth Street Square because the BYC will not be having the skating rink this year. Animal Magic will perform there Dec. 2 and 3;

- Approved the chamber's annual fireworks display set for the Denton Road Bridge at 8 p.m. on Dec. 3. It will be put on by Great Lakes Fireworks and is paid for by the Belleville Yacht Club;

- Approved the Jingle Bell 1K and 5K Runs at 9:45 and 10 a.m. on Dec. 3, beginning at High Street, with High Street closed between Main and Church. The run heads out Main Street on the parking lane and to the Denton Road Bridge and out into the township and then back to the starting point;

- Approved accounts payable of \$42,243.22 and the following departmental purchases in excess of \$500: to Blue Ribbon Contracting, \$3,729 for sewer/road

repair, \$1,367 for fire hydrant repair, and \$504 for sewer repair; to MDEQ \$1,278.78 for annual fee; and to Wise Tech. \$573.75 for computer network; and

- Learned several people have turned in applications for the vacant city council seat and they have until 4 p.m., Nov. 10, to apply. The council will meet in special session at 6 p.m. Nov. 15, to select someone to serve on the council for the next year. The vacancy was created by the resignation of Kim Tindall.

Proceeds from Veterans Christmas dinner to fund Pets for Vets

Swift Charities and Swift Transportation of New Boston will sponsor its Second-Annual Christmas Dinner for Our Veterans on Sunday, Dec. 11, at the Belleville Moose Lodge 934, Sumpter at Harris roads. Proceeds from the event will help fund Pets for Vets - Southeast Michigan. The doors open at 12:30 p.m. and a buffet dinner will be served from 1 to 5 p.m. On the menu is turkey, ham, stuffing, mashed potatoes and gravy, sweet potatoes, corn, green bean casserole rolls and desserts.

The \$10 donation includes dinner and soft drinks. Five dollar donations are accepted for children aged five through ten.

Advance tickets are available at the Moose Lodge at (734) 325-7799 and by calling Denise at Swift (734) 753-2323.

Help Emily furnish new, non-skid slippers for children in hospitals

Eric Osaer of Sumpter Township has committed to helping with a project at Cincinnati Hospital, where he travels for treatment. He met a girl named Emily there and she has started Emily's Happy Feet with a goal of distributing 11,000 pairs of slippers to children in hospitals.

Eric took on responsibility for Michigan distribution of slippers and will make their first distribution on Thanksgiving at Ronald McDonald House in Ann Arbor.

Eric and Critter Club 4-H will be at the Abbott Building at the Wayne County Fairgrounds on Quirk Road from 2 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 13, to accept donations of new slippers with tags or in boxes. Sizes needed are from infant to adult, which is the size teenagers' wear. Especially needed are slippers for teenage boys.

Eric's mother Rene Osaer said volunteers could be used to help with the collection on Nov. 13 and maybe donate the thin ribbons used to tie the slippers together. For more information, call (734) 740-4039.



City of Belleville Public Notice



POLICE DEPARTMENT VEHICLE BIDS

BELLEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The Belleville Police Department is accepting sealed bids for the following vehicles:

2001 Ford Explorer
2002 Ford Focus
1999 Ford Taurus
2000 Pontiac Grand Prix
2000 Ford Escort
1999 Lincoln Town Car
2003 Ford Taurus
1995 Dodge Dakota

The vehicles are being stored at J&T Towing in Belleville. Bids must be in a sealed envelope clearly marked with which vehicle you are bidding on and "Bid for Vehicle." Bids are due in the City Clerk's Office by Friday, November 18, 2016, no later than 4:00 p.m. They will be opened and read publicly at the November 21, 2016 City Council Meeting at Belleville City Hall, 6 Main Street, Belleville, Michigan 48111 in the Council Chambers at 7:30 p.m.

Vehicles may be viewed at J&T Towing, 287 Industrial Park Drive, Belleville, Michigan.

The City reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids and to waive irregularities in the best interest of the City of Belleville.

DATE: October 26, 2016

**PUBLISH: November 3, 2016
November 10, 2016
November 17, 2016**



City of Belleville Public Notice



City's Fall 2016 Leaf Collection

The City of Belleville will not be picking up leaves in a "Fall Leaf Collection" program for 2016. Leaves must be bagged in yard waste bags and placed with your regular refuse pick up. Twigs and other yard waste may continue to be placed in paper bags or yard waste containers for the regular refuse collection through November 25th.

Publish: November 3, 2016; November 10, 2016



City of Belleville Public Notice



POLICE VEHICLE AUCTION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE UNDERSIGNED THAT ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2016 at 11 :00 A.M. at J&T Towing, 287 Industrial Park Drive, County of Wayne, Michigan, a public sale of the following vehicle will be held:

2006 FORD, STA-WAGON, VIN: 2FMZA52256BA25947

**DATE: NOVEMBER 7, 2016 BELLEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT
6 MAIN STREET
PUBLISH: NOVEMBER 10, 2016 BELLEVILLE, MICHIGAN 48111
BY SHERRY SCHARF, CITY CLERK**

*To build a better world,
start in your own community!*

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 1, 2016

Supervisor Combs called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor Combs, Treasurer Budd, Clerk Wright, Trustee Hart, Trustee Jahr, Trustee McClanahan and Trustee Miller. Others in attendance: Secretary Montgomery and an audience of thirteen.

Supervisor Combs requested to amend the agenda to include Public Hearing, Correspondence and Public Comment after the Consent Agenda.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Jahr moved, Hart seconded to approve the agenda as amended [addition of Public Hearing, Correspondence and Public Comment after the consent agenda] Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Budd moved, Wright seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. [Work Study Session Minutes of October 17, 2016, Board Meeting Minutes of October 18, 2016, Prepaid list of October 21, 2016, Prepaid list of October 27, 2016, Voucher list of November 1, 2016]. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

CORRESPONDENCE: Supervisor Combs read a letter from the Wayne County Sheriff Honor Guard praising the assistance of our Public Safety Department Honor Guard during the funeral services for fallen officer Krol, a letter from Exedy Corporation thanking Lianne Clair for her preparation of a proclamation for Corporate Advisor Harou Shimizu who was transferred to Japan, a letter from Huron Township Supervisor Glaab for the assistance of Public Safety Deputy Director (Fire) Besson with interviews for the Huron Township Fire Chief position and a message from a resident announcing that a go fund me page has been set up for Danny Perez owner of Dos Peso who died suddenly.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Comments included: disappointment in the cancellation of the Public Hearing on the budget and lack of notice of cancellation on the website.

Supervisor Combs called a recess at 7:20 p.m. for clarification with Board members on a Tentative Agreement in the POLC contract. The meeting resumed at 7:25 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS: McClanahan moved, Wright seconded to approve the contract between the

Township and Police Officers Labor Council (POLC) Command unit effective January 1, 2014 thru December 31, 2017. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Combs, Budd, Wright and McClanahan. Nays: Hart, Jahr and Miller. Motion Carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Announcements included: The Clerk's Office will be open on Saturday November 5, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. for absentee voting, Monday November 7, 2016 from 7:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. is the last day for absentee voting, the Administrative Offices will be closed on Tuesday November 8, 2016 to accommodate the voting public (precincts #3 and #4 will be open for voting) and on Friday November 11, 2016 in observance of Veterans Day.

NON-AGENDA: Comments included: Registration for the Van Buren/Belleville Goodfellows starts November 7, 2016, applications are available on the Township website (www.vanburen-mi.org) and at the Public Safety Department. Applicants must apply in person with Driver's license, or currently utility bill and proof of residency, the NAACP Western Branch general membership meeting will be held, open to the public, in the Todd Scott Memorial room at Wayne County Community College District-Western Campus on November 14, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. with representatives from Van Buren Township and Inkster Public Safety Departments, facts regarding the Van Buren Township Public Safety Department, requested the Township display a proclamation honoring Veterans during the month of November, the vote on the POLC contract should not have been before the election, requested clarification on the purpose of the November 3, 2016 Special Work Study Session, opposition to the Public Safety millage, support for the Public Safety millage and requested the Township utilize the bid process for towing and impound fees. Board members presented proclamations recognizing the years of service and contributions of the four Board members whose terms will expire on November 20, 2016.

ADJOURNMENT: Hart moved, Miller seconded to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. Motion Carried.

Leon Wright, Township Clerk
Linda Combs, Supervisor
Published: November 10, 2016

Brown Funeral Home earns 2016 NFDA Excellence Award

Brookfield, Wis. – The National Funeral Directors Association (NFDA) announces that more than 160 funeral homes have earned the 2016 Pursuit of Excellence Award – including David C. Brown Funeral Home in Belleville.

This award is presented by NFDA annually to firms that have demonstrated a commitment to raising the bar on funeral service excellence by adhering to strict ethical and professional standards and providing outstanding service to families and communities.

There are only 20 funeral homes awarded this honor in all of Michigan.

"We offer our congratulations to all NFDA members that earned the 2016 Pursuit of Excellence Award," said NFDA President Bob Arrington, CCO. "The staff of these funeral homes demonstrate their commitment to the highest professional and ethical standards every single day. They have truly earned this award and we are proud to count them as members of NFDA."

To earn an NFDA Pursuit of Excellence Award, a funeral home must demonstrate proficiency in key areas of funeral service, such as compliance with state and federal regulations; providing ongoing education and professional development opportunities for staff; offering outstanding programs and resources to bereaved families; maintaining an active level of involvement in the community; participating and actively serving in the funeral service profession; and promoting funeral home services through a variety of marketing, advertising and public relations programs.

Participants are also required to adhere to a Pledge of Ethical Practices.

NFDA honored David C. Brown Funeral Home as a 2016 Pursuit of Excellence Award Recipient on Oct. 24 during the All-Star Recognition Ceremony, which took place during the 2016 NFDA International Convention & Expo in Philadelphia.

Belleville/Van Buren Goodfellows applications for assistance starts Nov. 7

Applications to receive assistance for the 2016 Belleville/Van Buren Goodfellows Christmas Food and Toy Distribution Program will begin 9 a.m. Monday, Nov. 7, at the Van Buren Township Police Department. Application forms will be available at the front desk. Printable forms will also be available online on the Van Buren Township website at www.vanburen-mi.org.

The program is open to Belleville City and Van Buren Township residents only. Sumpter Township has its own Goodfellows' program.

Families may apply immediately, or pick up forms and apply later, anytime 24/7 after 9 a.m., Monday, Nov. 7.

You must apply in person at the Police Department with proof of residency, such as driver's license, State ID or current utility bill showing name and address.

Call-in, mail-in, or emailed applications will not be accepted.

Applications for assistance will close Friday, Dec. 2, at 3 p.m.

For more information or questions about the Goodfellows' program, call Pam Fleming at (734) 699-8934, week days, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Pam Fleming, Coordinator
Belleville/Van Buren Goodfellows



Sumpter Township Public Notice



Sumpter Township Parks and Recreation Open House

Sumpter Township is sponsoring a parks & recreation open house to receive input from the public regarding the Township's upcoming Parks & Recreation Plan update.

Join your neighbors and Township officials and exchange ideas on the future of **your** community. Your comments will directly impact the outcome of the upcoming five-year Parks & Recreation Master Plan update for the Township. This plan will be the guiding document for future decision-making, outlining the goals and objectives for the Township's activities for the coming years.

The Sumpter Township Parks and Recreation open house will be held on:

**Thursday, November 17, 2016, from 6:00 – 7:00 pm
Sumpter Township Administrative Office, 23480 Sumpter Road,
Belleville**

Contact for additional information on this event:

Chris Nordstrom, Carlisle / Wortman Associates, 734.662.2200 or cnordstrom@cwaplan.com

Publish: November 10, 2016

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

Out of the 565 dispatch calls for service reported by Van Buren Township police this week, the following are selected for this column.

Sunday, Oct. 30:
0851 – trespassing, Tyler Rd.
1137 – property damage accident, EB Rawsonville / I-94
1153 – property damage accident, Belleville
1207 – larceny from auto, Belleville Rd.
1310 – retail fraud, Rawsonville Rd.
1407 – assault & battery, E. Archwood Dr.
1417 – property damage accident, Belleville
1417 – property damage accident, Ecorse/Van Born
1551 – property damage accident, N. I-94 Service Dr.

1628 – private property incident, Van Born Rd.
1811 – malicious destruction of property, Tompkins St.

2102 – suicide or attempt, Riggs Rd.
2222 – shots fired, Tyler Rd./Quirk Rd.

Monday, Oct. 31:
0317 – assault & battery, Churchill Dr.
0933 – fraud, Elwell Rd.
1011 – private property incident, Van Born Rd.
1118 – suicide or attempt, Martinsville Rd.
1129 – assault & battery, Sonrisa St.
1322 – larceny from auto, Denton Rd.
1335 – larceny, E. Archwood Dr.
1401 – disorderly conduct, Belleville Rd.
1425 – juvenile complaint, Wheeler St.
1427 – fraud, Sumpter Rd.
1620 – property damage accident, Martz/Lohr
1637 – property damage accident, Bellridge Club House
1643 – water leak found, Lenmoore Ave.
1707 – larceny from auto, Denton Rd.
1925 – agency assist, Village Park
2201 – noise complaint, Prairiegrass Ct.
2210 – suspicious situation, Arthur St.
2212 – operating while intoxicated, Tyler/Haggerty

Tuesday, Nov. 1:
0020 – disorderly conduct, E. Archwood Dr.
0153 – hospice, Country Walk Blvd.
0520 – hospice, Denton Rd.
0831 – malicious destruction of property, Davis
1155 – code enforcement, Jackson St.
1416 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1441 – shots fired, Maple
1444 – agency assist, Rawsonville Rd.
1507 – property damage accident, EB Michigan/Rawsonville
1512 – agency assist, GE/Visteon
1548 – assault & battery, Parkwood Dr.
1648 – assault & battery, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1649 – malicious destruction of property, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1837 – vehicle repossession, Oak Ln.
1920 – disturbance, E. Sadie Ln.
1947 – disorderly conduct, Country Walk Blvd.
1949 – retail fraud, Belleville
2001 – private property accident, Oak Ln.
2101 – assault & battery, Belleville/Venetian

Wednesday, Nov. 2:
0016 – assault & battery, Revere Dr.
0215 – assault & battery, Parkwood Dr.
1008 – private property incident, S. Ponderosa Trl.
1224 – fraud, Samuel Barton Dr.
1248 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1253 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1336 – fight, Anna Dr.
1455 – abandoned auto, Alden Ave.
1458 – private property incident, Maurice Dr.
1555 – fraud, Tyler Rd.
1821 – noise complaint, Arthur St.
2214 – noise complaint, Wheatgrass Ln.
2227 – family trouble, Ash Dr.

Thursday, Nov. 3:
0621 – malicious destruction of property, Oak
0814 – personal injury accident, Belleville
0936 – larceny from auto, Belleville Rd.
1000 – property damage accident, W. Huron River
1132 – juvenile complaint, Lohr
1142 – juvenile complaint, Tyler
1225 – breaking & entering, W. Adams
1347 – fraud, S. Ponderosa Trl.
1357 – assault & battery, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1526 – disturbance, Rawsonville Rd.

1813 – assault & battery, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1813 – fraud, Greenwood Dr.
1948 – juvenile complaint, N. Cumberland Dr.
2209 – assault & battery, Dartmoor Cir.
2311 – fight, Belleville Rd.

Friday, Nov. 4:
0451 – vehicle repossession, Kirkridge Park Dr.
0712 – property damage accident, Haggerty/Ecorse
0729 – noise complaint, Arthur St.
0805 – agency assist, Willow Run
0954 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Mantauk Ct.
1225 – disturbance, Rawsonville Rd.
1458 – larceny, Anna Dr.
1457 – fight, Robson Rd./Marlowe Ave.
1516 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Belleville Rd.
1552 – intimidation threat, Patty Ln.
1647 – assault & battery, Sheldon Rd./Van Born
1944 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1958 – assault & battery, Rawsonville Rd.
2011 – property damage accident, Ecorse/Hannan
2031 – breaking & entering, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2259 – disorderly conduct, Hardwood Dr.
2336 – intimidation threat, S. Ponderosa Trl.

Saturday, Nov. 5:
0041 – disorderly conduct, Denton Rd.
0042 – sexual assault, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0804 – larceny from auto, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0902 – fraud, Rawsonville Rd.
0940 – larceny from auto, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1002 – loitering, Ecorse Rd.
1014 – property damage accident, Haggerty/Tyler
1034 – property damage accident, Bemis Rd.
1228 – trespassing, Brookside Dr.
1548 – harassment call, S. Cumberland Dr.
1613 – property damage accident, Ecorse Rd. / Belleville Rd.
1622 – shots fired, Bog Rd.
2053 – larceny, Belleville Rd.
2101 – unattended death, Hull Rd.
2203 – family trouble, Pond Ridge Dr.
2349 – noise complaint, Wildbrook Dr.

Also on this week’s log are 198 traffic stops, 40 of which were on the I-94 and I-275 freeways and on bypasses, 41 at Lakewood, 11 at Woodstone, and five at the Curves on Denton Rd.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Oct. 30:
0045 – property damage accident, E. Huron River
0154 – assist fire dept., Carmell St.
1012 – welfare check, W. Columbia Ave.
1600 – assist fire dept., Belle Villa Blvd.
1606 – welfare check, Church St.
1613 – juvenile complaint, Carmell St.
1801 – civil matter, Main St.

Monday, Oct. 31:
0402 – agency assist, Sumpter
1026 – assist fire dept., Sumpter Rd.
1137 – information, Main St.
1347 – prisoner transport, S. Wayne Rd.
1750 – breaking & entering, N. Liberty St.
1914 – narcotics crime, Village Park
2152 – intrusion alarm, Estrada
2354 – noise complaint, N. Edgemont Ave.

Tuesday, Nov. 1:
0602 – suspicious person, First St./N. Liberty
0820 – misc. complaint, Hillside Cemetery
0820 – disorderly conduct, W. Columbia Ave.
0821 – malicious destruction of property, W. Davis
1023 – property damage accident, W. Davis St.
1721 – E-911 hang up/investigation, Third St.
1950 – larceny, Estrada

Wednesday, Nov. 2:
0148 – parking complaint, Carmell St.
0630 – vehicle lockout, Main St.
0807 – private property accident, Owen Middle School
1238 – malicious destruction of property, Clarence
1405 – assist citizen, Sumpter Rd.
1737 – larceny, N. Liberty St.
1846 – property damage accident, N. Liberty/Main

Thursday, Nov. 3:
0813 – misc. complaint, W. Columbia Ave.
0825 – suspicious situation, Main St.
1011 – larceny, N. Liberty St.
1121 – assist fire dept., Carmell St.

1334 – malicious destruction of property, Greylock St.
1915 – missing person, W. Columbia Ave.
2108 – missing person, W. Columbia Ave.
2200 – suicide or attempt, South St.

Friday, Nov. 4:
0113 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
0753 – sexual assault, Harbour Pointe sub.
1236 – private property accident, Fourth St.
1332 – information, Belle Villa Blvd.
1852 – vehicle lockout, Edgemont Elementary
2009 – juvenile complaint, E. Waterbury Ct.
2023 – suspicious situation, N. Liberty St.

Saturday, Nov. 5:
0937 – disorderly conduct, N. Aberdeen Ct.
0942 – assist fire dept., Biggs Ave.
1119 – E-911 hang up/investigation, Santa Clara
1244 – traffic complaint, E. Huron River Dr.
1852 – larceny, Belle Villa Blvd.
2022 – assist fire dept., Menlo Park Dr.
2213 – assist fire dept., Sumpter

Also on this week’s log are 26 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Oct. 30:
0037 – assist other agency, 46000 bl. Judd Rd.
0222 – operating while intoxicated arrest, 48000 bl. Judd Rd.
0524 – traffic hazard, 17000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1104 – alarm, 46000 bl. Kozma Rd.
1724 – death investigation, 23000 bl. Karr Rd.
1832 – civil dispute, 46000 bl. Judd
1944 – property damage accident, Willow / Rawsonville
1953 – warrant arrest pick up, Carriage Ln.
2024 – juvenile complaint, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.

Monday, Oct. 31:
1115 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1145 – warrant arrest pick up, Maple Dr.
1156 – family trouble, Montana
1158 – fraud complaint, 41000 bl. Harris Rd.
1212 – dumping complaint, 26000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1336 – suspicious vehicle, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.
1354 – suspicious incident, Montana
1513 – traffic hazard, Judd/Haggerty
1542 – larceny, 47000 bl. Executive Dr.
1603 – identity theft complaint, 49000 bl. Willis
1611 – animal complaint, Birch
1707 – assault, Rustic Ln.
1936 – warrant arrest pick up, out of township
2033 – suspicious vehicle, 25000 bl. Karr Rd.
2045 – fire dept. assist, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2220 – animal complaint, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

Tuesday, Nov. 1:
0809 – suspicious incident, 44000 bl. Willis Rd.
0856 – citizen assist, 46000 bl. Arkona Rd.
1435 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1504 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1516 – animal complaint, 42000 bl. Willis Rd.
1533 – ordinance violation, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1612 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Paris Dr.
1628 – ordinance violation, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.
1740 – mental health commitment, 26000 bl. Elwell Rd.
2031 – suspicious vehicle, 19000 bl. Elwell Rd.
2046 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.
2230 – fire dept. assist, 20000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2343 – shots fired, 28000 bl. Sherwood Rd.

Wednesday, Nov. 2:
1054 – death investigation, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.
1149 – harassment complaint, Brookview
1458 – parking complaint, 47000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1957 – 911 hang up, 21000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
2226 – alarm, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2241 – suspicious vehicle, 20000 bl. Griffin Ct.

Thursday, Nov. 3:
0354 – fire dept. assist, 41000 bl. Judd Rd.
0710 – traffic hazard, Sumpter/Willow
1032 – juvenile complaint, Rustic Ln.
1119 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1124 – harassment complaint, Country Club Blvd.
1310 – animal complaint, Judd/Martinsville
1438 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1450 – civil dispute, 25000 bl. Karr Rd.
1500 – parking complaint, 47000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1504 – malicious destruction of property, Rustic Ln.
1729 – suspicious vehicle, 20000 bl. Griffin Ct.

1853 – animal complaint, 28000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1939 – well-being check, 18000 bl. Martinsville
2228 – malicious destruction of property, 24000 bl. Karr Rd.

Friday, Nov. 4:
0131 – flee & elude, Rawsonville/Willis
0534 – property damage accident, Sumpter/Bemis
1201 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1348 – suspicious incident, 25000 bl. Carleton West Rd.
1448 – harassment complaint, Utah
1538 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Clark Rd.
1639 – suspicious vehicle, 51000 bl. Judd Rd.
1651 – alarm, 51000 bl. Wear Rd.
1652 – property damage accident, 21000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1819 – fire dept. assist, 27000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1847 – warrant arrest pick up, Willow/Carleton West Rd.
1849 – citizen assist, 20000 bl. Karr Rd.
2042 – fire dept. assist, Texas
2203 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2215 – alarm, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.

Saturday, Nov. 5:
0639 – civil dispute, 18000 bl. Morton Ave.
0818 – fire dept. assist, 41000 bl. Willis Rd.
1202 – property damage accident, 20000 bl. Wilmot Rd.
1827 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1841 – ordinance violation, 23000 bl. Bohn Rd.
1853 – ordinance violation, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.
1946 – assist other agency, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2051 – mental health commitment, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

2203 – odor investigation, 18000 bl. Savage Rd.
Also on this week’s log are 18 follow-up investigations, 38 miscellaneous details, 134 patrol checks, and 52 traffic stops.

Planet Fitness to go into vacant former Farmer Jack building in VBT

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Planet Fitness applied for a building permit and was approved to work on the inside of the former Farmer Jack building on the North I-94 Service Drive, just west of Belleville Road in Van Buren Township. Ron Akers, director of the VBT Planning and Economic Development Department, said last week that the former grocery store that has been vacant for 20 years will have Planet Fitness in three quarters of the building and 13,000 square feet left vacant.

He said the owner of the property is seeking tenants for the rest of the building. The plans are to work on the inside of the building this winter and to update the exterior and façade in the spring. Since the only work being done now is on the inside, the project was approved administratively and did not have to come to the township planning commission, Akers said. He said many people have voiced concern over the vacant Farmer Jack and he and his department have been working with the owner to fill the space.

Local students graduate from Davenport University

Davenport University has announced that Belleville residents Pavlina Novay, Nina Vekima and Tykia Vesey recently graduated.



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Superintendent's Corner

By Pete Kudlak
Superintendent,
Van Buren Public Schools



Between my work and my two high school sons, this fall, I have spent an inordinate amount of time at sporting events and music performances. I love watching students perform. I respect all of the hard work and practice time that goes into each event.

The crowd cheers as the performers support each other. The students get recognized for their achievement and effort. Everyone celebrates.

What we do not see from the seats are the countless individual reminders, nudges, direct teachings, peer-to-peer instruction, failures, frustrations, and repetitions. It is real work and real dedication.

I would love to see an educational system where students have this kind of buy-in in traditional core subject areas. Where they are connected to their learning and where they are challenged in unique and real-life scenarios.

We can only do so much to prepare students for what lies ahead. Just think about how the jobs will change during their lifetime. The current kindergarten class will graduate high school in 2029!

I believe that our students will need to read, reason, collaborate, create, decide, share their voice, learn from failures, judge,

communicate, and have passion. How do our classrooms need to change in order to prepare this group of students? I know that it is not getting everyone to fit within the same box.

These coaches and music directors seem to understand it. They have a wide-variety of talent that they meld together into one, joint product. The students have passion -- no matter where they fit into the system. They are given the flexibility in their learning to be where they are and grow as fast as they can. The content is even altered based upon both the individual needs, as well as, the collective needs of the group.

Schools are getting pulled in many different, conflicting directions: the high-stakes accountability features are encouraging schools to pull back and get back to the basics; our state curriculum is posing a deep-thinking environment; college readiness is leading to dissecting the SAT and spitting back the content; professionals in the business believe that we need to take the ceiling off this generation and let them fly.

All I know is that I want my two children to be flexible thinkers that are able to articulate their viewpoint, understand yours, construct meaning from various sources, be constructive teammates, create new ideas and be willing to share and fail with them, and above all else, be good human beings in their citizenry.

I do not know what this will look like but I sure am excited about working with you all as we figure it out for our students.

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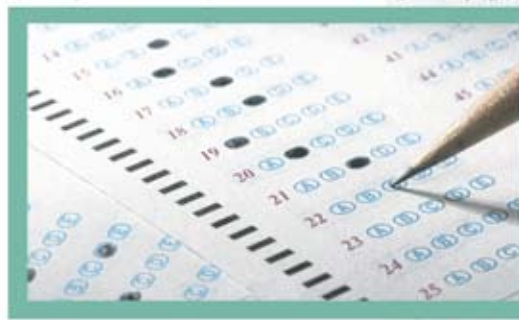
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Contact the library to register.

November 16 & 23, 7 pm

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RAWSONVILLE & JUDD 78 AC \$400,000
SUMPTER TOWNSHIP
VACANT KARR ROAD 5 ACRES \$35,000
26455 KARR 5 ACRES 162X1308 \$33,000

25817 SUMPTER RD. 97 ACRES \$20,000
26960 SHERWOOD 2.5 ACRES \$30,000
45885 BEMIS PAVED BUIDABLE LOT \$25,000
24409 SHERWOOD 1.15 ACRES \$30,000
20743 GRIFFIN COURT 1.4 AC \$29,500
ELWELL ACROSS FRM 29300 10AS \$59,500

42915 WILLIS 4 SPLITS \$30,000 TO \$40,000
49317 ARKONA 40.28 ACRES \$180,000
BEMIS BY SAVAGE TWO 6 ACRE \$65,000
VINEY AND SIBLEY 21+ ACRES \$450,000
WILLOW ROAD 1.36 ACRES \$25,000
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